

But if they get away with their lobbying, their bogus claims, and their PR campaign, we will have bought Airbus a sledgehammer to whack away at our aerospace industry. That is outrageous. We cannot let it happen. We need to hold Europe accountable for what it has done and we need to make sure Airbus is not rewarded for its bad actions.

Finally, we should act boldly to embrace many of the recommendations from the Commission on the Future of the United States Aerospace Industry.

The administration is acting on a number of fronts. Congress must do more, as well. As a first step, Congress should create a Joint Committee on Aerospace. I intend to introduce legislation to create that joint committee. It will help Congress recognize our future is very much tied to aerospace and commercial aerospace, in particular. A dedicated group of House and Senate Members with a targeted agenda can help the administration and the country recommit itself to the next century of global aerospace leadership.

I have sounded the alarm. No Member of Congress can claim they did not know what European governments and Airbus are doing to American workers. This is a critical industry. They are jobs worth fighting for.

I am not willing to surrender our leadership in the second century of flight. There is a battle for the future of the aerospace industry. Europe is putting its full support, subsidies, and power behind Airbus, and it is working. We have to get off the sidelines.

I am committed to working in the Senate to make sure American workers

have a fighting chance to lead the world in aerospace. I know if we focus on the challenge before us, our country will recover from this, just as Seattle recovered from the downturn in the 1970s. We have a bright future ahead if we take the steps I have outlined and hold on to our leadership in commercial aerospace.

Aviation was born in America 100 years ago. Let's make sure Americans are leading it 100 years from now.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask unanimous consent the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on today's Executive Calendar, Calendar Nos. 619, 620 and 657.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

NOMINATIONS

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

A. Paul Anderson, of Florida, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner for the term expiring June 30, 2007.

Joseph E. Brennan, of Maine, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner for the term expiring June 30, 2008.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Paul V. Applegarth, of Connecticut, to be Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order the Senate will return to legislative session.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in adjournment until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 6, 2004.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 8:18 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, May 6, 2004, at 9:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate May 5, 2004:

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

A. PAUL ANDERSON, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2007.

JOSEPH E. BRENNAN, OF MAINE, TO BE A FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2008.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PAUL V. APPLGARTH, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION.

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES' COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.